

to ensure that it is applied properly. The threshold in the rule applies to an instant contract action, not to the total value of all contract actions and, as applicable to subcontractors, the threshold applies to the value of the subcontract, not the value of the prime contract. This final rule was published in the *Federal Register* June 28, 2006, in the *FAC 2005-10*.

Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Webcast Regulations

This is a joint Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy/DAU video magazine highlighting the latest in the *FAR* and the *Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement* (DFARS) regulations. It can keep you up-to-date on what's happening in the *FAR/DFARS* community. This 30-minute video, part of the DAU *Knowledge Sharing Channel*, debuted July 17, 2006, and is updated monthly. Consider counting this as part of your continuous learning points. To view the video, go to <http://view.dau.mil/dauvideo/view/eventlisting.jhtml?eventid=1054>.

For more information, contact Barbara Binney at (703) 604-7113/DSN 664-7113 or barbara.binney@saalt.army.mil.

Barbara Binney works for the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy and Procurement) and is a DAR Council member.

Correction

In *Army AL&T Magazine's* July-September 2006 Special Contracting Insert, we inadvertently misidentified one of the people in the photograph at the top of Page 16. The photograph and the correct names are shown below. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Army AL&T Magazine Staff



A. CELCMC PARC Edward Elgart tours a ground station relay facility at Fort Monmouth with CELCMC Command Sergeant Major Ray D. Lane, recently returned from Iraq, along with MAJ Lisa Carter and Contracting Officer John Onieal. (Photo by Russ Meseroll, Chenega Technology.)

ALTESS News

Ammunition Enterprise Portal (AEP) Brings Full Access

Michael E. Pittman

In the past, the ammunition community developed various information technology (IT) applications for specific mission and organizational assignments. These were distinct functional and organizational computer programs covering numerous financial, technical and administrative applications. At the time, organizational boundaries, geography, technological limits and user relationships required unique user interfaces, data definitions, accessibility and database management systems.

Today there are stand-alone applications exchanging data at the application level, forming the initial enterprise architectures for the future. Attempts to link these and older systems led to complex issues such as data synchronization and integrity, nonstandard data definitions and data availability. These systems were so poorly interconnected that data had to be exported from one application, often manipulated and then imported into another application. If there was an electronic data exchange, it generally was so tightly coupled that changes were isolated to specific systems without considering the impact on the entire enterprise architecture.

The first step to a fully integrated infrastructure consistent with DOD operational architecture and security requirements is to standardize collecting, identifying, consolidating and assimilating applications into a data-centric environment. The data would then be controlled by the authoritative source and all users would access it through Web services.

AEP brings full enterprise access to the ammunition community's administrative, technical and financial data through a single logon, Web-based portal, while maintaining appropriate security, copyright, proprietary, ownership and distribution protection.

AEP

AEP was established by the Program Executive Office for Ammunition (PEO Ammo) to integrate people, processes and infrastructure from PEO Ammo, the Joint Munitions

Command and the U.S. Army Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center to support the mission of developing, procuring and supplying ammunition to warfighters. PEO Ammo's intent is to transition the ammunition community to a fully integrated enterprise environment that manages ammunition information as a tangible critical resource. AEP's architecture was designed with a user's work patterns and workflow processes in mind, and is reliable, adaptable, scalable, and business and technology driven. AEP provides a single access for all DOD ammunition organizations, applications/databases and knowledge management tools.

Core Areas

AEP has two core areas: the Ammunition Enterprise Systems (AES) and the Communities of Participation (COP). AES provides the ammunition community's financial, technical and administrative systems and applications. AES applications can be fully integrated, interfaced or linked. Fully integrated applications share the same database structure and schema, data definitions, front-end and user interface functionality. Interfaced systems may have the same database application, structure and data definitions, but have a different user interface. AES contains the following modules:

- Web Ammo Models' (WAMs') managerial and analytical tools provide the development and justification for DOD ammunition procurement requirements. WAM hosts the only consolidated ammunition data source including asset postures for active ammunition items, projected assets, training and Army war reserve requirements.
- Engineering Support of Items in Production offers a budgeting, tracking and reporting tool.
- Program Management Information System brings an ammunition integrated business and production data management tool for planning, tracking and reporting on execution data. It also develops component level and end-item production schedules.
- Acquisition Planning Module (APM) manages contract solicitation artifacts and stores the various milestone data. APM assists in procurement package preparation, monitors contract preparation status, creates reports, helps procurement contracting officers and acquisition analysts with pre-procurement planning and ensuring required documentation is completed. APM is common access card (CAC) enabled, requiring only the CAC and pin for login.

COP is a collaborative knowledge management environment allowing geographically dispersed and organizationally diverse teams to communicate and fully use shared information; work

in TeamRooms; perform document storage and configuration management, calendar/event scheduling and tasking. This portal section is built around a TeamRoom environment with five collaborative areas that include: messaging, document management, tasking, calendar/event scheduling and discussion forum.

Each area links to other areas, providing a virtual workspace. The TeamRoom's foundation is the document management area, which allows for storage, retrieval and configuration management of team documents. Individual profiles drive the security and accessibility down to the document level, while standard content management structure and data definitions provide a framework for data storage, access, sharing and maintenance.

Web Conferencing is available through the Virtual Insight implementation of Oracle® Collaboration Suite (OCS). Future plans call for a transitioning TeamRooms to an upgraded capability. OCS will provide tools that live within the DOD architecture and enable cross-department, cross-functional, end-to-end interoperability of business systems and processes in government and industry. Some of the enhanced features include file sharing, content search, e-mail, calendar, voice mail, and wireless and voice.

AEP is the gateway to the enterprise environment providing Web-based accessibility to all ammunition community members, crossing organizations and service boundaries to access data — anytime and anywhere — through TeamRooms and Web conferencing. AEP also offers access to applications supporting everyday business processes within our community through a single point of entry, regardless of host location. We are continually working to improve the functions and features available to our users.

AEP was designed, built and is maintained by the Project Officer Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Enterprise Systems and Services (PO ALTESS), Radford, VA. PO ALTESS champions efforts in the acquisition information management community and receives its guidance and direction from the PEO Enterprise Information Systems, Fort Belvoir, VA. For more information about AEP, contact Michael E. Pittman at (540) 731-3419/DSN 231-3419 or michael.e.pittman@us.army.mil.

Michael E. Pittman is the PO ALTESS AEP Project Leader. He holds a B.S. in electrical and computer engineering from the University of South Carolina and is certified Level III in IT, Level I in program management and Level I in systems planning, research, development and engineering.